



Workshop participants will include researchers, fishing industry representatives, and managers. The two-day workshop will be dedicated to designing, preparing, and reviewing a step-by-step guide to developing a quality research proposal (including how to identify a testable hypothesis, how to design a sampling protocol, how to prepare a budget, etc.). The intent is to make this guide widely available to aid industry members to be successful in obtaining cooperative research funding.



For more information regarding the upcoming workshop, visit the Northeast Region's Outreach & Communications website at: <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/outreach/> or contact the Sustainable Fisheries Division at 978-281-9315

NOAA Fisheries Service

One Blackburn Drive
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Developing a Cooperative Research Project and Proposal

Northeast Region Workshop



NOAA Fisheries Service

Northeast Region Workshop

In recent years, opportunities for cooperative research have expanded in the Northeast and awareness of these opportunities has increased significantly. Although there are more research programs dedicated to supporting cooperative research than in the past, funding remains limited. Competition for these limited funds has increased as the cooperative research programs receive more and more proposals each funding cycle. Each year, many good ideas for cooperative research are left unfunded because the proposals do not fully satisfy all the requirements of the grant programs. While these requirements and the process associated with submitting a proposal may appear to be unnecessarily complex, they ensure that all proposals start out on equal footing and are evaluated in an objective and fair manner.

The increase in competition for limited research funds means that cooperative research proposals, to be successful, must be well thought-out, clearly articulate a link to management, and address all required elements of the cooperative research program. With this workshop, we hope to develop a guidebook

to assist the fishing community with preparing successful proposals for cooperative research funding.

The workshop will address specific issues related to the development of gear research proposals. The format for the workshop will include general discussions on the development of quality proposals and hands-on exercises to assist in creating what we hope will be a useful tool for those who wish to become more involved in cooperative research. We intend to build on previous fishery bycatch workshops organized by the Rhode Island Sea Grant Program that addressed catch comparison design and gear selectivity analysis.

The workshop has been organized by the Northeast Region Bycatch Committee, a group comprising representatives of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Sea Grant, the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils, and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, with the objective to engage more industry members in cooperative research programs.

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

Short-term objectives:

- Produce a step-by-step guide to developing a research proposal;
- Disseminate the guide to the fishing community; and
- Conduct outreach on bycatch issues in the Northeast region.

Long-term objectives:

- Improve the quality of cooperative research;
- Minimize duplication of effort; and
- Minimize competition and foster cooperation in fisheries research.

These objectives have been identified as priorities in the Northeast Region Bycatch Implementation Plan.

**Sheraton Harborside Hotel
Portsmouth, NH
January 24-25, 2006**

